

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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THE WAR WILL GO ON.

THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON?

Nineteen Hundred and Seventeen opens bright with promise. There is promise to the world that the greatest and most exhaustive war in history may come to a close ere this year wanes into the past. There is the certain prospect that the United States will receive another blessing of remarkable material prosperity, and hope that this material wealth will be accompanied by the moral development without which mere riches constitute a curse instead of a blessing.

For Hawaii there is promise of another year of high sugar prices and large output, and of prosperity in other industries and business. Times here are "easy" and they will continue to be easy. Many considerable fortunes are being made, but the most gratifying feature of local prosperity is the fact that it is being "spread around."

The Star-Bulletin has several wishes for the New Year, besides that standing wish of health and happiness not only to our patrons but to all Hawaii.

We wish particularly for this territory better transportation facilities for passengers and freight to and from the coast. The merchants need it sorely in their businesses. It is needed to realize the full benefits of the tourist traffic.

We wish and are confident of a year of growth, of a bigger, cleaner, more aggressively colonized city in 1917 than in any year preceding.

We wish for the passage of the municipal bond issue, and for a municipal election next April and May fought out on real live issues instead of mere party lines, prejudice and outworn catch words.

We wish for systematic effort directed toward furnishing more amusement for the tourist.

We wish for closer cooperation between the people and their elected and appointed officials, and for a greater concentration of effort by these officials upon speedy action toward carrying through public improvements.

There are other wishes, but if even a portion of the foregoing come true in reasonable measure, Hawaii will have no reason to quarrel with the year 1917.

RESIDENT WILSON'S PEACE SUGGESTIONS

The full text of the president's note to the belligerents having been received here, it is evident that if anybody in Washington blundered in the issuance of this note, it was the secretary of state who attempted to explain it. The first "explanatory" statement which Mr. Lansing issued served only to arouse the suspicion that the note might have a double meaning, a suspicion which the president promptly dealt with. He called Mr. Lansing into conference and the latter then made his second "explanation," which, from one in his high office, is a plain and almost a humble apology.

As for Mr. Wilson's note, it is, like all of his state papers, a cameo of contemporary English. It is better than the majority of his official statements also in that there is practically nothing of the fine philosophy which he has a penchant for overdoing. It is direct and forcible.

As will be seen by a reading of the note, which is published on Page 5 today, the president finds ample justification for his unprecedented action. He points out precisely why the greatest of neutral powers cannot in justice and humanity allow the present opportunity to pass without directing the thoughts of the belligerents toward a definition of the terms for which they are fighting. To all the critics who question the propriety of Mr. Wilson's act, a careful reading of the full text of the note is recommended.

The president's course, historians have been quick to point out, has no precedent in world history. For the matter of that, neither has the action of the Teutons, undefeated belligerents, in proposing peace at this stage of the great war-game.

Readers of history point out that the nearest parallel in world history for President Wilson's action was President Roosevelt's move in 1905 to end the war between Russia and Japan. But in that case the president had been assured his proposal would not be disagreeable to either of the belligerents, and, curiously enough, it was through Emperor William of Germany that the preliminary soundings were introduced into the suggestion that President Roosevelt take the steps.

Before that time President Roosevelt had conferred with Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, and with Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister. In the Russian capital the American ambassador, George von Meyer, had conversations with Count Lamsdorff, the Russian minister for foreign affairs. In Tokyo, American Minister Grignon had conversations with Count Komura, the Japanese minister for foreign affairs. The outcome of all these preliminary moves was that President Roosevelt was assured that he would not be humiliated by a rejection of his action.

Therefore well-informed spectators of the new drama centering in Washington are firmly convinced that the president must have had some assurances that his note would not be brusquely ignored, and that the position of the United States as the possible mediator later on would not be imperiled.

There's

Germany's peace proposals have met an Entente reply which ought to be plain to the world as well as to the Teutons. The Allies have no intention of bartering for peace on any such terms as the Teutons will offer.

Quite evidently both sides will demand the maximum, and hope to get something between this and the minimum. But neither events in the war arena nor developments in ministerial and diplomatic circles indicate that the minimum of the two sides are at all coincident. It may be taken for granted that the Allies will not make concessions. The Teutons, to secure peace, probably would yield a good deal, but it is entirely unlikely that they would come anywhere near meeting the demands which the Allies must stand upon as absolutely essential.

For instance, the Allies certainly would insist on the full restoration of Belgium and a heavy indemnity for the outrages this country has suffered. Germany would probably agree to restore Belgium, but only with governmental strings upon the kingdom, and Germany is not likely to agree to the principle of indemnification. For if Germany once yields on this principle, she must pay indemnities to Russia, Serbia and perhaps Rumania.

The Allies must also insist upon the restoration to France of Alsace-Lorraine. It has been said with good reason that if the Entente group were to yield on this point, France would break from the group immediately. For France has consecrated the last drop of blood in the veins of her heroic people to redeeming the lost provinces.

The Allies must also recompense Italy by giving her the Austrian territory for which she is fighting, must recompense Serbia with a slice of Bulgaria, Rumania with Transylvania, Russia with the Danubian and much of Asia Minor, perhaps also with part of Austria.

These are objects which the Allies must insist upon. There might be slight changes, but this is virtually the minimum below which the Entente Powers cannot go.

Their maximum—put forward as a basis for trading in the peace conference—would be much more ambitious. The despatch from Copenhagen last week which suggested that the Allies would demand the partition of the German navy and the neutralization of the Kiel canal was treated here as a joke, but if the "irreconcilables" in the British government have their way, Germany is to be crushed not only as a military power but as a commercial power. Certainly the Allies hope to reduce the Teutons to such straits that they can carry out a program rigidly limiting standing armies and naval construction. They would also like to dispossess Germany permanently of her overseas colonies and possessions, for they fear German trade after the war.

Such drastic demands as reparation by Germany for ships sunk, on the basis of ton for ton; indemnification for every life lost in the submarine warfare; and the democratization of the German government show that the Allies expect to win the war after a struggle which will totally exhaust the adversary. The main point is that the Allies have no intention whatever of letting peace talk interfere with their war program. Their leaders declare that England has just begun to fight. With Lloyd George at the helm, and the whole country turned into a war-machine, their leaders should prophesy correctly. The Star-Bulletin believes that Germany's proposals will encourage the Allies in the belief that the enemy wants to quit.

JUDGE VAUGHAN'S DECISION.

Suggestions have been made from time to time in the past and are now renewed that the law requiring members of the National Guard of Hawaii to be citizens be repealed. The reason for the renewal of this suggestion is that Federal Judge Vaughan last Saturday handed down a very important decision denying the privilege of naturalization to Filipinos, and there are something like 750 Filipinos in the guard.

It is true that the status of Filipinos as regards naturalization is deplorable, due to the two conflicting decisions, the first by Judge Clemons, the second by Judge Vaughan. To the Filipinos it seems an injustice quite contrary to the treatment they have been taught is accorded those who dwell under the Stars and Stripes. Yet it would be a grave step indeed to repeal the law requiring members of the national guard to be citizens. The ideal of home defense—and Hawaii's guard is for home defense—is that of citizen defenders.

Prompt appeal to the highest tribunals, pressing the cases to early decision, is the wiser way of settlement. The war department has already approved the enlistment of Filipinos here, and their status as regards membership in the guard will be unchanged while the law and the facts are being threshed out in the courts.

Query: What effect will New Year's Day have on the British "tanks"?

The New Year schedule: Must—Cussed—Bust!

Can't we resolution Carranza off the map?

1917 is up fine for a new crop of notes.

ATTORNEY KINNEY ASKS ACCOUNTING

A suit for an accounting has been filed in circuit court by William A. Kinney, former Honolulu attorney and now residing in Nova Scotia, against Attorneys Mason P. Prosser, Robbins B. Anderson and Benjamin L. Marx, former law partners of the plaintiff. Kinney claims that, without any agreement having been reached, the defendants, on December 5, 1912, filed with the treasurer of the territory a notice of his withdrawal from the firm with the intent, it is alleged, to exclude him from participation in the profits from all pending and future business of the partnership.

Since the filing of the purported withdrawal, the complaint alleges, the plaintiff has been excluded from any part or share in the business, and that while he has received various small payments since December 5, 1912, these have amounted to but little. Plaintiff further alleges that defendants have retained either the whole or an undue proportion of two fees of \$5000 and \$10,000, which it is contended, were earned prior to December 5, 1912.

Kinney alleges that the defendants have refused to render a proper accounting to and settlement with him, and he asks that the defendants be ordered to pay what shall appear to be due him, including a fair value of his interest in the business. Attorney William B. Lymer is representing Kinney. It is understood that the law firm of Thompson, Milverton & Cathcart has been retained by the defendants.

LETTERS

DAMAGES TO THE COUNTY

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir: From one who believes that sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

Mauka side of King street, near Pawa Junction, is a hole dug by the water department, running right across the road. There have been broken springs and curses many on account of that hole.

It seems that there ought to be a law compelling those who dig up the road to cover it to the condition that formerly prevailed.

A woman the other day got damages for her injured foot. Why can't a man who owns a machine and who pays taxes, and a high tax at that, get redress for broken springs and damages to the car from the effects of that hole and other holes which the water works have dug and left dangerous to those who travel over them.

If your car is in any way damaged see a lawyer and bring a civil suit against the county. Might be the county would wake up to see that the tax payer has some kick coming, and do the right thing.

A TAXPAYER.

THE CONTRAST

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir: Apropos of the satisfaction and results of the National Guard of Hawaii encampment of instruction recently held at Red Hill, near this city, the following letter, written by one of the boys of the National Guard of the state of Alabama, recently mobilized at Montgomery, that state, for a session of instruction, to Hon. George Huddleston, Alabama's representative in Washington, is quite interesting. It follows:

"August 24, 1916.

"Hon. George Huddleston,

"Washington, D. C.

"Dear Mr. Huddleston: We have numbers of young lawyers and other professionals and businessmen in our battery, who are suffering great sacrifices by being here. I am one of the number. We do not feel like staying here, when the only advantage we get is sleeping out in the open air and teaching our stomachs that we can live on fat sowbells and peas. We get no military training here. As a matter of fact, it is impossible to get it. We have no horses and there is no prospect of getting any, and everybody knows a man can't learn and practise artillery without horses. Of course I have to be careful what I say, but I feel that I can say to you it is the greatest comedy of errors I have ever seen. Shakespeare would turn over in his grave in disgust if he could get a vision of it, and if he were here he would lower his head in chagrin and jealousy and order every volume of his famous Comedy of Errors burned up. You can't imagine the great hardship it is to the fellows. Several of them think it would help if you would make a speech in Congress before it adjourns, setting up facts above outlined and showing what a great injustice a supposedly democratic government does to its young men, citizens who have spent years and money in college training for life by herding them up like cattle

PUT OLD CARES BEHIND YOU

This is no time to fret or pine
For sorrows that are past.
Put these behind you, friend o' mine,
In mind alone they last.
With radiant bliss Dame Future
Smiles;
So come, be of good cheer,
Heed not false sorrow's cruel wiles—
'Twill be a glad New Year.

No matter, friend, whom you may meet
When on your "rounds" today.
Life is but short, let's make it sweet
For all who come our way.
Come, wear a smile, 'tis worth your while,
And wish all who are here,
In spite of Old Dame Grouch's wile,
"A bright and glad New Year."

JACK D. CLEARY.

JAPAN MAY LEARN IN WIRELESS USE

"A good opportunity has been given me since my arrival to study wireless systems here," said Engineer M. Sakai of the Japanese communication department, who has been stopping in the islands to investigate the wireless systems on his way to the United States and Europe. "I am well satisfied and appreciative of what has been done for me by the wireless authorities."

The differences between the Kahuku wireless station and our Funabashi station in its wireless system are great. One is the Marconi system and other the German system. Therefore, the arrangements of the plants are also very different, but there is no difference in efficiency. Yet one thing that I particularly felt is necessity of an improvement upon our Funabashi station by adopting the Marconi duplex system.

"The duplex system of wireless is not used in Japan at present, though it has been taken up lately in the United States and some European countries."

"I understand that Marconi Telegraph Company is intending to adopt such system on this island soon. I was told that the wireless station at Koko Head is for that purpose. The principle aim of this duplex system is to establish two stations, with one station to be used only for despatching and the other only for receiving. We must adopt such system in our country as soon as possible."

"Our Funabashi station often received San Francisco messages direct without having a relay at Kahuku station, but it is not for the public, I believe, although it will soon be possible to communicate with San Francisco regularly. The wireless will be more useful than the cable, as it is quicker in communication and cheaper in rates."

"On account of war in Europe, and Japan is one of the allies, the United States government is very strict in examination of messages in order to keep strict neutrality, and we are not allowed to use cryptograph or private codes."

"At present there are only 20 communications per day on an average between the Kahuku and Funabashi wireless stations, but this will increase after the European war is over."

POLICEMAN LUHI HURT WHEN HIS HORSE FALLS

Mounted Policeman David Luhi of the Kaimuki district was injured this morning on his way to the station to report after his night's work when his horse, Halfax, which won the policeman's race not long ago, slipped with him on Beretania street, near Alapai, and crushed him severely. The policeman was found unconscious where he had fallen by a private-car driver, who picked him up and hurried him to the emergency hospital. He is resting there now in considerable pain, but out of danger with no bones broken.

FIRE DEPARTMENT HAS THREE NEW YEAR RUNS

The fire department last night made three runs in three hours, more runs for the one day than any time during the year.

At the Ah Leong block at Queen and Punchbowl street a mosquito netting was on fire; in one of Dr. Li's cottages on Kukul lane was another small blaze, and in one of the stores on King street, opposite the railway depot, a large bunch of firecrackers which was mysteriously set off furnished considerable excitement.

and training them in military science by having them pull the triggers of empty guns. We think we are men who can think and reason. None of us can see either the justice of it or the wisdom of it, either politically or economically. We certainly would appreciate your help."

M. F. C.

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Paid Publicity Helps Good Resolves.

PISTOL MORE EFFECTIVE THAN BASEBALL BAT IN ENGAGEMENT IN KAKAOKO

Because Herman Kauia's team in Kakaako lost a baseball game was no sign he was vanquished, for he obtained a revolver and chased the whole squad of victors out of the district. At least this is the story told by the police about Kauia, who has been arrested for going defensively armed

and using threatening language. It is said that following a ball game which resulted disastrously for his squad, he chased the victorious Palama crew from Kakaako to King and Richards streets.

Made entirely of metal, a new vise for woodworkers can be placed at any angle at which it may be desired to use it.

The military reserves of the class of 1898 have been called to the colors by the Italian War Office.

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